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FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF

LAVINIA L. DOCK



THE NEW OWNERSHIP OF THE BRITISH JOURNAL

THE nurses of Great Britain have formed a company on business lines and have become the owners of the *British Journal of Nursing*, a most praiseworthy and excellent step, upon which we heartily congratulate them. We also warmly applaud the attitude of the fearless and able Editor and Associate Editor of the *Journal*, throughout their whole editorial career, culminating in this disinterested step. We shall take it upon our individual self now to say what Mrs. Fenwick and Miss Breay never would say themselves, that their work upon this *Journal* has been of a rarely disinterested and unselfish nature. The early history of the *Journal* was not unlike that of Garrison and his *Liberator*, for the cause of organization, self-government and higher standards of education and life conditions which the *British Journal* (then the *Nursing Record*) stood for were opposed bitterly by a ring of narrow, autocratic caste supporters, and every method that hostility could devise was taken against it. In the early years Mrs. Fenwick supported it out of her own pocket, for principle's sake, because she was making a fight for principle and progress, not conducting a journal for profit or as a business venture. The lay nursing journals that sneer and try to impute self-interested motives to nurse editors do not understand the actual motives that impel them. For years the editor of the *Nursing Record* stood up against personal vilification, commercial tactics to "freeze out," and the enmity of strong rivals. She conquered them all, brought the principle of organization to a triumphant vindication, and made her *Journal* an undisputed power. Now, when it is solidly established and successful, both financially and professionally, she makes it over into the hands of the nursing profession. It is the right thing to do, and in line with the whole policy of the *Journal*.

MISS ISLA STEWART, matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has been appointed on the nursing board of the Imperial Military Nursing Service of Great Britain. All of Miss Stewart's many friends

will be gratified at this conspicuous and well-deserved compliment to Miss Stewart, who combines broad-minded and far-seeing intelligence in nursing affairs with rich experience and a native geniality of temperament.

ANOTHER richly-deserved honor conferred upon an Englishwoman has come to Miss Louisa Stevenson, who has been made an LL.D. by Edinburgh University. Nurses in all continents owe a meed of reverence and affection to this gifted and distinguished woman for her unceasing and influential care for nursing progress, and the higher education of women.

THE nurses of the General Hospital of Birmingham have formed a League and have issued a very excellent league journal.

THE graduate nurses of La Source training-school at Lausanne have formed an association among themselves, for mutual acquaintance and stimulus, provision for sickness and trouble, and to uphold good educational standards and discourage the entrance of imperfectly trained workers into nursing. "La Source" is a very interesting school on "free" lines. It was described in the papers sent to the Nursing Congress of the World's Fair in Chicago.

The British Journal of Nursing quotes a New Zealand nurse, lately in England, as follows, in regard to the Nurses' Registration Act of that country, which has now been in force there for four years. It is not only of proved utility to both doctors and nurses, but it has been most useful in bringing the training-schools into line, and in improving their systems of education on account of the healthy rivalry induced between them by the Central Examination instituted under the Act. The benefit to the public is also obvious. They can now distinguish between the fully trained and the amateur, and they are not slow to recognise this advantage, or to avail themselves of the services of nurses whose knowledge has stood the test of the examination imposed.

THE honorary secretary of the Association of the United Provinces and Punjab, Miss J. W. Thorpe, has become a collaborator in the *British Journal of Nursing*.

THE ADVANCE OF AUSTRALIA

ONE of the interesting things the Royal Victorian (Australia) Trained Nurses' Association has done has been to establish an accepted standard of qualifications for matrons (training-school superintendents), and to win for it the cordial approbation of lay managers of hospitals. The R. V. T. N. A. gives a post-graduate certificate to matrons who prepare themselves and successfully meet the demands of this standard, and, although this is all quite voluntary, several matrons now in hospital positions have applied for this certificate, and it seems likely that, in time to come, public opinion will require it of nurses applying for positions as heads of training-schools.

The main points covered are that the applicant must be qualified on administration, hospital management, and training or teaching.

INTERESTING mention of a new nursing journal managed by French nurses, of a projected school of nursing in Rome and of the opening of a large hospital in Dortmund by the German Nurses' Association, and with a school on advanced modern lines, come too late for this number, and, needing adequate mention, will be taken up in a later issue.

COLONIAL NURSING ASSOCIATION

THE Colonial Nursing Association, under English auspices, sends nurses into the most remote and forgotten corners of the earth, such as the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic, Pahang in the Federated Malay States, and corners of Africa, the very names of which are hardly known to American nurses. It is quite desirable for nurses taking these posts to be certified midwives, and, further, to understand tropical diseases. For the latter, a special three-months' course is open to them at the London or Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

LEAGUE JOURNALS

THE number of league journals now edited by British nurses has rapidly outgrown our records, and we hope soon to give a full list of them.

AN AMERICAN HOSPITAL IN PARIS

AN American hospital for the city of Paris has been talked of for a number of years and is now soon to become a reality. An asso-

ciation of founders has been formed and chartered, a subscription list opened, and plans made. There are to be free and pay beds, in which all American citizens, irrespective of creed or color, may secure medical and surgical treatment. The names of the founders are John H. Harjes, A. Van Bergen, W. S. Dalliba, Edmond Kelly, F. W. Sharon, John J. Hoff, H. H. Harjes, Dr. A. J. Magnin, Dr. Crosby Whitman. The name is to be: The American Hospital of Paris. It is intended to raise \$1,000,000 to build and endow the hospital. Subscriptions may be sent to Messrs. Morgan, Harjes & Co., bankers, of Paris.

SISTER KARLL writes from Berlin: "The Nurses' Registration Act just passed for Germany was not presented by the German Nurses' Association, but I am glad to have any bill, as things were growing worse and worse. With this bill we can begin to work for improvement in conditions and without it we could do nothing. It is really intended for male nurses, not for the Sisters. But it will require the age of 21 and a full year of training before any one can begin to nurse. What they want to teach is quite good, but too much for one year. But at least it is solid ground to begin on for something better."

A GERMAN nursing sister has lately been buried with military honors. She had been decorated for her services in the wars of 1866 and 1870-71, and had afterwards been the 'valued nurse of the old Empress Augusta. At the time of her death she was the head of a Red Cross hospital at Munster.

THE great hospital of Charité in Berlin, which has in the past been nursed successively by hired attendants, and by deaconesses from various motherhouses, is now educating its own trained sisters and will in the future employ no others. Candidates must possess more than a common-school education, and they have, beside their practical teaching, a three months' course of theory given them. This is a great advance for the old Charité, which was the Bellevue of Berlin.

THE existing system of first aid stations throughout the city of Berlin, heretofore conducted by private associations, has been made a municipal responsibility, in coördination with the medical societies of Berlin.

THE German physicians are treating the ice-bag as of more and more importance in the management of inflammations. They are exceedingly exacting as to the details of the ice-bag. It must fit, exactly, the surface to which it is to be applied. It must not be tightly filled or be heavy, and it must be so constructed that the water produced by melting must be continually carried off.

THE MISSION FIELDS

THERE is a Hindu Ladies' Social Club of 164 members (says the *Missionary Link* of June) in Bombay, which is doing a good deal to stimulate the women of India. Among other lines of study courses in simple nursing methods (probably First Aid Work) are given by the St. John Ambulance Association.

UNDER the medical mission work conducted at Santalia a small hospital has been built, but most of the patients live *al fresco*, outside the hospital, providing their own food and nursing. The physician in charge considers a good shady tree the best hospital ward in the world, and applies the outdoor treatment to all kinds of cases.

A MAGAZINE called *Nurses Near and Far* is published in London by the Nurses' Missionary League, and shows much of the work in foreign missions.

A MAGAZINE covering similar ground in our own country, the *Missionary Link*, had the following items in a recent number:

MARCH 8th, Miss Strain returned to our girls' school in Japan, and Miss Elizabeth Irvine to her evangelistic work in Shanghai. March 12th, Miss Bertha Miller was sent out as a surgical nurse for our Margaret Williamson Hospital, where it is hoped she may be able to relieve the great pressure on our surgeons connected with that growing work.

DR. ALICE L. ERNST, Superintendent of our Mary S. Ackerman-Hoyt Hospital in Ihansi, writes: Scholarships for our nurses are becoming imperative. We now have nine nurses in training, who are poor Christian girls, and who must be clothed and fed while they are being trained. We have estimated that the cost cannot be under fifty dollars a year for each nurse. Will you not make an appeal for this pressing need, which seems to be more imperative at this time than the endowment of hospital beds?